

MINUTES OF MEETING OF COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
HELD IN WASHINGTON, D. C., JANUARY 6, 1931.

The eighth meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1931 was held in its office in the Interior Department Building, January 6, 1931. The following members were present:

Mr. Moore, Chairman,
Mr. Cross,
Mr. Winter,
Mr. Weinman,
Mr. Mauran,
and Mr. H. P. Caemmerer,

Executive Secretary and Administrative Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a. m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS: The Minutes of the meetings held November 7 and December 4, 1930, were approved.

2. ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN: Mr. Moore having been reappointed a member of the Commission of Fine Arts by President Hoover, effective December 8, 1930, the question of election of a chairman was placed before the Commission. Upon motion properly moved and seconded, the Commission unanimously re-elected Mr. Moore as Chairman.

3. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN: The office of Vice Chairman having become vacant due to the expiration of the term of Mr. Garfield, the Commission elected Mr. Morris as vice Chairman.

4. GEORGE WASHINGTON BICENTENNIAL MEDAL: Mr. Moore called attention to the meeting of the Committee on Sculpture for the George Washington Bicentennial Medal, consisting of the former sculptor members of the Commission of Fine Arts, Mr. Daniel Chester French, Mr. Herbert Adams, Mr. Lorado Taft (Mr. Fraser not participating), and Mr. A. A. Weinman, present member of the Commission and

chairman of the committee. The committee met in New York City at the studio of Mr. Daniel Chester French, 17 East 9th Street, on January 3, 1931, to consider the models submitted by the four competitors, Mrs. Fraser and Messrs. Jennewein, Aitken, and MacNeil. Mr. Moore asked Mr. Weinman if he was prepared to submit a report, and Mr. Weinman submitted the following:

January 3, 1931.

"The Committee of Sculptors to whom four models for the George Washington Bicentennial Medal were submitted, unanimously report in favor of Model numbered One."

(Signed) Daniel C. French.
" Herbert Adams
" Lorado Taft
" A. A. Weinman, Chairman.

Photographs of the four sets of models had been received. These were inspected by the Commission and after due consideration the report of the Committee on Sculpture, which selected model No. 1, was unanimously approved. A report was made to Honorable Sol Bloom, Associate Director of the George Washington Bicentennial Commission, accordingly. (Exhibit A)

5. SHEDS FOR EASTERN AND WESTERN MARKETS: Representative R. Walton Moore of Virginia, Representative Stephen W. Gambrill of Maryland, and Mr. George M. Roberts, Superintendent of Weights, Measures, and Markets, appeared before the Commission of Fine Arts and requested advice in the matter of construction of sheds at the Eastern and Western Markets for the accommodation of farmers from Maryland and Virginia. At the last session of Congress \$10,000 was appropriated for their construction.

The displacement of the farmers from B Street, N. W., and the abandonment of Center Market, they said, makes it necessary to do something for these farmers who sell their produce on two days of the week from the curb at these markets. The sheds would very likely be only temporary, pending the construction of other market facilities in Washington.

Mr. Moore asked how the work is proceeding on the Farmers' market, and Mr. Roberts replied that condemnation proceedings have been started for two squares near the Fish Market in Southwest Washington, but according to the District Commissioners there is not enough money available to buy the land and build the market.

The Western Market at 21st and K Streets was built about 1870 and the Eastern Market between C Street and North Carolina Avenue fronting on 7th Street was built a little later. About 100 farmers come to each of these markets and sell along the sidewalk near the curb but suffer from lack of protection during bad weather. The type of shelter Mr. Roberts had in mind is one similar to the shelter opposite the House Office Building for people waiting for street cars. This sort of shed would cover the sidewalk, protecting the purchasers as well as the farmers.

Mr. A. L. Harris, the Municipal Architect, who was present, when asked his opinion on the subject, said that the sheds would be an eyesore and that the farmers should furnish their own shelters as is done in European markets. To this Mr. Roberts replied that the United States has advanced beyond the European methods in many things and if the farmers were to bring their own shelters, the result would be a still worse eyesore. Mr. Harris said that he raised no objection to the scheme itself and if called upon to prepare the designs, he would submit them to the Commission of Fine Arts thereby complying with the Executive Order in bringing designs to the attention of the Commission. He suggested that if the sheds be built, they be constructed from the sidewalk line to the building line thus leaving the sidewalks unobstructed, the parking space around both Eastern and Western Markets, including the sidewalk space, being very wide--36 feet wide at the Western Market.

The Commission decided that an inspection should be made of the Eastern and Western Markets to consider this matter, at which time also the type of shed suggested--similar to the one opposite the House Office Building--should be inspected. It was agreed that Mr. Moore and Mr. Mauran should act as a committee on this matter for the Commission.

The inspection was made on Wednesday, January 7, by Mr. Moore, Mr. Mauran, Mr. Roberts, and the Secretary, when not only the Eastern and Western Markets were visited, but also about half a dozen others located in different parts of Washington, as the K Street Market at 5th and K Streets, N. W. (now called the new Center Market); O Street Market; P Street Market; new Patterson Tract Wholesale Market; and the new Wholesale Market at the water front, Southwest. Attention was called to the new market development at Cleveland Park, designed by Mr. Arthur B. Heaton, where it is said produce is sent directly from California to Cleveland Park.

It was generally admitted that the market situation in Washington is chaotic. Mr. Mauran emphasized the fact that the question of providing adequate facilities for farmers and buyers is much more than simply constructing some sheds for their protection. Mr. Mauran said further that in other cities one square is usually designated for the use of farmers. It is paved and after the farmers have sold their products, it is cleaned up and so does not exist as an eyesore. The Secretary called attention to the Newark, N. J., market which has such a square for the use of farmers. Mr. Moore recommended strongly the establishment of a Farmers' Market along the water front immediately west of the Fish Market towards 14th Street to take the place of the existing area that is being used for captured and discarded automobiles. This space is owned by the Government and a test could be made whether a Farmers' Market established

there would be patronized by the people of Washington. Then there is also the new Farmers Wholesale Market on the Patterson Tract, which has a special space allotted for the use of farmers.

The Commission disapproved the erection of the sheds proposed and a report, in which the general subject of the market situation was presented from the viewpoint of the Commission, was sent to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia. (Exhibit B)

6. POLICEMEN AND FIREMEN'S MEDAL. Mr. A. L. Harris, Municipal Architect, presented a model, prepared by Bailey, Banks and Biddle of Philadelphia, of the Policemen and Firemen's Medal to the Commission. Mr. Weinman said that he did not like the symbolism, the figure of a woman crowning a man with a wreath and that the model should not be accepted. The Commission concurred in this statement. Mr. Weinman suggested to Mr. Harris that sketches rather than a model be used to determine the design. Mr. Harris said that he had only \$250 to procure the model although Congress has authorized the preparation of medals which will be in gold, silver, and bronze to be presented to policemen and firemen for valor. The model was disapproved. (Exhibit C)

7. UNITED MASONIC TEMPLE, DEAN TRACT: Mr. Harvey Wiley Corbett, Architect, of New York City, presented a model of the proposed United Masonic Temple, showing flanking buildings and an apartment house to illustrate the relative height of the apartment houses that are in the immediate vicinity of the Dean Tract. Under the Zoning Act, the Masonic Order is permitted to build to the cornice line 90 feet in height, but Mr. Corbett said under the zoning law the height of a building is measured from the curb of the street, which in this case is fully 20 feet lower than the top of the hill and would thus make the Masonic building very low unless the hill were completely leveled off. The possibility

of putting a street across the tract back of the proposed building so that the building could be built to a height of 90 feet from the top of the Dean Tract, presented itself, but Mr. Corbett said that in order to lay out a street that could be used, it would be necessary to cut through the hill so as to connect with an adjoining public street adjacent to the Dean Tract as the District Commissioners are not in favor of constructing a street on the Dean Tract that does not connect with a public thoroughfare.

Therefore, the whole project comes back to the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission under the Act recently passed by Congress requiring the approval of the design by these Commissions. Mr. Corbett asked for the approval of the first unit as presented by the model submitted, subject to later submissions and changes in detail, with the understanding that part of this tract should be kept as a park area as indicated in the model. Mr. Eliot of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission said that that Commission had voted against the purchase of the portion of the Dean Tract which the Masonic Order is offering at cost price plus interest and taxes, as an area could be purchased a few blocks farther up the hill which in their opinion is better located for park purposes.

Mr. Moore asked Mr. Eliot about the widening of Florida Avenue which passes the Dean Tract on the south side. Mr. Eliot replied that a suggestion had been made that a street be cut through the tract and the resulting triangle at Florida and Connecticut Avenue be re-zoned for commercial use.

Mr. Corbett said that the Fraternity pays such high taxes on this tract that it is necessary for them either to sell the area which they do not need for building purposes or to use part of it for income producing units in order to pay the taxes on the remainder of the land. If the tract becomes again a private

development, the Masonic Order may be forced to put it to commercial use.

Mr. Eliot said that the National Capital Park and Planning Commission objects to paying \$500,000 or more for this land that is suggested for a park area (approximately 5 acres) and that he hoped the Commission of Fine Arts would concur in the matter. Mr. Moore said: "For the development of the National Capital we think this is the most desirable thing that can be done now. If your Commission does not have the money, that is another question. When you wish to buy land for park purposes and the recommendation comes from the National Capital Park and Planning Commission to the Commission of Fine Arts for the purchase of a tract as is required by your Organic Act, the Commission of Fine Arts never asks what you are going to pay for the land but considers the proposition strictly on its merits as to whether the area proposed should be included in the park system of the National Capital. So, in this instance, the Commission is considering the question as to whether or not in their opinion the park should be established as part of the Dean Tract regardless of cost. The Commission think it should be done".

Mr. David Lynn, Architect of the Capitol, who was present, said that he was certain that if the Commission of Fine Arts would favor the creation of a part of the Dean Tract as a park, members of Congress would interest themselves in the project. It is in a thickly settled section of the city that has no park and the Dean Tract is so well wooded a few acres of land would be admirable for a park at this location.

Mr. Corbett repeated his statement that he hoped the Commission of Fine Arts would approve unit No. 1 as indicated in the model, subject to the rest of the property remaining a park with the other units to be approved by the Commission later. If the support of the Commission could be obtained, Mr. Corbett thought

it possible to secure the land proposed for a park area.

The Commission felt inclined to approve unit No. 1 as shown in the model with the proviso that part of the area be kept as a park as indicated.

Mr. Moore said that he would like to see this opportunity taken advantage of now as for years people of Washington have wanted to see the Dean Tract developed as a whole for the City of Washington. Mr. Corbett said that the purpose of the Masons is not just to erect a building for themselves but to put up a building that will be a credit to the city. The Commission upon further consideration approved unit No. 1 with the proviso that the remainder of the tract be developed as a park and that any significant change contemplated will require a new submission to the Commission of Fine Arts. A report was sent to Mr. Corbett. (Exhibit D)

8. ENTRANCES TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: Mr. Charles W. Eliot and Mr. W. L. Partridge of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission submitted in behalf of Colonel Grant sketches for markers to the entrances to the District of Columbia, a project in which the Garden Club of America is much interested and proposes to carry out in time for the George Washington Bicentennial in 1932. Mr. Eliot said the National Capital Park and Planning Commission was asked for suggestions regarding the style of marker at the entrances to be marked. Among these entrances at the District line are the entrance at Wisconsin Avenue, Georgia Avenue, Sixteenth Street, Chevy Chase Circle, the new underpass on the Piney Branch Road - N. W.; Rhode Island Avenue, Takoma Park, Bladensburg Road - N. E.; Pennsylvania Avenue and Anacostia in the Southeast. All these are approaches to the District of Columbia from Maryland. From the Virginia side there is the Highway Bridge, Memorial Bridge, Key Bridge, and Chain Bridge.

Of the various studies prepared by Mr. Partridge for markers, which were submitted, the Commission discussed the double column from the State, War and

Navy Building, many of which will be made available because of the remodeling of that building as a State Department Building. The height of the columns is roughly 16 feet, including the pedestal. It is proposed to place a motif, possibly an eagle in concrete or other material at the top, and it was said these columns could be erected at the entrances to the District for \$250 each. The Garden Club of America has raised about \$4,000 to begin the project.

The architect members of the Commission examined the design of the columns and unanimously rejected it as being out of scale and inappropriate as a marker for the entrances to the District of Columbia. Mr. Moore said the old columns are being removed from the State, War and Navy Building because they are bad and they should not be allowed to be re-erected in some other part of the city. Mr. Moore called attention to the fine type of marker at one of the entrances to Washington, namely, the pylons and eagle at the Columbia Island end of the Arlington Memorial Bridge. These in design and workmanship should set a standard for other markers to be erected at the entrances to the District of Columbia. Mr. Moore said further that in his opinion the Garden Club of America would do much better to develop a planting scheme that could be carried out at the various entrances to the District of Columbia mentioned, allowing space for some architectural motif appropriately designed that could be erected there later.

The Commission concurred in these suggestions of Mr. Moore and disapproved the erection of the old columns of the State, War and Navy Building as markers for the entrances to the District of Columbia. (Exhibit E).

9. DESIGN FOR DRINKING FOUNTAIN: Colonel Grant presented a design for drinking fountains in the District of Columbia to take the place of the ordinary metal devices that are now in use in various parts of the city. Mr. Winter suggested that the molding around the top be less pronounced. Mr. Moore said

that the color of the fountain is very important. Mr. Winter suggested green but added that a light color always looks more sanitary.

10. WAREHOUSE. Colonel Grant presented several sketches for a warehouse to be erected at Virginia Avenue and C Street, Southwest, south of the railroad tracks. At present there is enough money to build one-half of the warehouse, the other half to be erected some time later when it becomes necessary. Col. Grant is anxious to have a warehouse that would be of suitable type for others to be erected in the city later. Mr. Mauran called attention to the Army Supply Base in Brooklyn, designed by Cass Gilbert.

Mr. Cross objected to the large number of windows indicated in the design presented, but Lieut. Butler stated that a large number of windows is desired to avoid the use of much artificial lighting. The building itself would be used in part by the General Supply Committee of the Treasury Department, with a large office force that is now located in a temporary building on the Mall. Col. Grant questioned whether it would be desirable to have a warehouse similar to the Brooklyn Supply Base behind a line of classical buildings that are on the Mall, while if it were similar to the present Munitions Building, there would not be such a contrast.

The Commission recommended further study of the design, using the Army Supply Base at Brooklyn as a standard as far as possible. A report embodying these suggestions was sent to Colonel Grant. (Exhibit F)

11. NEW POWER AND HEATING PLANT: Colonel Grant presented a number of sketches for the new heating and power plant to be located in the area formerly occupied by Temporary Building No. 4, at 22nd and C Streets, N. W. This is to take the place of the present power plant located in the area at Virginia Avenue and B Street, which is to be occupied by the new Pan American Office Building.

Colonel Grant said he felt the building should look fairly respectable as some time might elapse before a building can be erected around it. He said that powdered coal can not be used to advantage here as the machinery for powdering the coal takes up considerable space and moreover powdered coal gives a very fine ash which spreads over the neighborhood; still further that while powdered coal is economical for a large plant, it would not be for this small one. He had talked the matter over with the Washington Gas Light Co., which is trying to work out a solution for this plant with gas and also the relative cost of gas. The installation that will be put in the plant will be adaptable to oil or gas.

Colonel Grant said that it is necessary for him to proceed with the preparation of plans for the new power plant as it takes some time to secure funds from Congress and the Pan American Union may build their office building in the near future.

The stacks in the design, Colonel Grant stated, are about 90 feet high but should be about 130 feet high. However, with the latest improvements, he thought the former height was sufficient. Mr. Moore called attention to the proposed plan to bring natural gas into the city, saying, however, that regardless of this, a power plant will have to be built.

The Commission thereupon again inspected the designs generally, and selected type C for the proposed power plant. (Exhibit G)

12. SCULPTURAL GROUPS AND COLUMNS, ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE:

a. Sculptural Groups. By letter dated January 5, 1930, Mr. William Mitchell Kendall of McKim, Mead and White reported as to a meeting held at the Fine Arts Building, attended by Mr. Morris, Mr. Cross, and Mr. Weinman, as follows:

January 5, 1931.

My dear Moore:

"We had a very interesting meeting at the Fine Arts Building on 57th Street, where we had laid out at a scale of three-quarters of an inch to the foot, the two pair of equestrian statues at the proper distance one from the other, with the balustrade in between, the object being to see whether the masses of the equestrian statues were sufficiently the same. As I supposed, they were far from satisfactory in that respect, and Fraser and Friedlander both agreed to make certain modifications in their work.

"I also had there photographs of the work of Lee Lawrie, Jennewein, Chester Beach, Hancock and Calder. We were all very much impressed with this exhibit which seemed to promise the best results. In view of the fact that Calder already has had commissions from the Government, it was decided that we substitute therefor Amateis, and I have sent him the letter and prints of the two columns which I sent to the others.

"I am sorry not to be able to be present at Mrs. Richardson's dinner, and to have the pleasure of meeting her once more, but there seems no particular reason for me to go on to Washington in view of what happened at our meeting this morning and, of course, Mr. Weinman will acquaint the other members of the Commission with what was decided."

Yours very truly,
(Signed) Wm. Mitchell Kendall.

Mr. Weinman stated with regard to this meeting that he made certain criticisms regarding the models so as to make them in proper proportion in their relation to each other. Also other details of the models were attended to. Mr. Friedlander's models were criticized in the treatment of the head of the horse and the rider. Mr. Fraser's models showed the wings of Pegasus rather fringy and they will be changed to make them more solid. Mr. Weinman stated that the models of both Mr. Friedlander and Mr. Fraser are sufficiently complete for purposes of a contract.

The Commission recommended acceptance of the models, prepared by Messrs. Friedlander and Fraser, and that the Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission enter into a contract with these sculptors for these groups. (Exhibit H)

b. Memorial Columns on Columbia Island Plaza. As for the columns for the Arlington Memorial Bridge, above referred to in Mr. Kendall's letter, a copy of a letter was also received from him (Exhibit H-1), dated December 22, 1930, which he sent to Messrs. Lawrie, Beach, Hancock, Jennewein, Gregory, and Calder. Mr. Weinman stated that Mr. Gregory does not wish to enter the competition and that because Mr. Calder is executing the Leif Ericsson Statue, Mr. Edmond Amateis has been selected as a competitor in Mr. Calder's place.

Mr. Weinman said that the committee decided that these sculptors having been selected as a result of a competition by photographs (Mr. Weinman being familiar with the work of Mr. Amateis and the question of judging his work by photographs to be attended to later), the Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission should be requested to authorize these sculptors to prepare scale models, for which they would receive \$500. The models themselves would be on the scale of 1" to the foot, based on the total height of the column, which is 175 feet. The sculptors might wish to send in sketches before proceeding with the scale models. Mr. Weinman said that Mr. Kendall is anxious to get a good symbolism for the relief on the band of sculpture at the base of the columns. The Commission decided that if the Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission enters into a contract for these models, that Commission could make use of any or all symbolism on the models presented by the sculptors. A report was sent to Colonel Grant (Exhibit H-2)

13. GRADING PLAN, ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE: Colonel Grant submitted a grading plan, prepared by McKim, Mead and White, architects of the Arlington Memorial Bridge, for the treatment of the plaza at the Lincoln Memorial between the Arlington Memorial Bridge and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. The plan has been made the subject of study for several years and carries out suggestions

of the Commission made in agreement with Mr. Kendall. According to the plan, the grades will be so raised as to avoid placing the Lincoln Memorial in a saucer--the plan lifts the Lincoln Memorial and raises the grounds approximately five feet. The plan was inspected and approved by the Commission. A report was sent to Colonel Grant. (Exhibit I)

14. NEON LIGHTING FOR ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE: Major Gillette introduced Mr. H. E. Barnes, representing the Claude Neon Lighting Company, who wished to offer further suggestions as to use of neon lighting for the Arlington Memorial Bridge. Mr. Barnes said that the Neon Lighting Company had suggested a handrail on the curb of the bridge, the neon light tube in the handrail to completely light the sidewalk and the bridge. Colonel Grant said that the advantage of this type of lighting is that people can see either the Lincoln Memorial or the memorial entrance to Arlington National Cemetery when walking or driving over the bridge, whereas with lamp posts these views would be obstructed. Mr. Weinman added that with statues and lamp posts there will be too many motifs sticking up from the bridge, and that if this idea of neon lighting could be worked out, it would carry out the desire of Mr. Kendall for diffused light for the Arlington Memorial Bridge. A letter was sent to Col. Grant, recommending that the Neon Lighting Company take up the matter with Mr. Kendall for his recommendations. (Exhibit J)

15. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE:

a. Bridges. Mr. Arno B. Cammerer, Associate Director of the National Park Service, accompanied by Mr. John B. Wosky, Landscape Architect of the Yellowstone National Park, appeared before the Fine Arts Commission to secure criticism or approval of the sketches for the El Capitan and Stoneman Bridges in Yosemite National Park. The El Capitan Bridge was approved without reserva-

tion. A few desirable modifications in the architectural design of the Stoneman were indicated, such as that the underpasses be moved a few feet toward the end of the wing walls in order to increase the wall area between the main arch abutment and the underpasses; (the distance shown was 8 feet, which will be increased to approximately 11 feet); furthermore, that the steps in the wall over the underpasses should be simplified by using one step instead of two; and also that a simple pilaster at the end of the wing walls be established in order to increase the thickness of the wall at that point and serve as a desirable terminal.

Mr. Cammerer also submitted designs for the Amphitheatre Road Bridge over Little Harbor Brook in Acadia National Park, proposed for construction as a donation to the park by Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. This had been submitted at a preceding meeting of the Commission in New York City by Mr. Charles W. Stoughton in person, the architect who prepared the drawing for the bridge. The Commission felt that the present design showed an improvement over the first one submitted and approved it, making the suggestion, however, that in their opinion the design would be further improved by eliminating the various apertures immediately under the main bridge rail.

b. Stephen T. Mather Memorial. Mr. Cammerer also requested the advice of the Commission on the sufficiency of designs submitted by Bryant Baker, sculptor, to the Stephen T. Mather Appreciation Fund for a bronze plaque to be installed in various national parks under the plans of that association. Mr. Cammerer explained that not until the designs were submitted at a recent meeting of the association, which Director Albright attended, did the scope of the plans of the committee become known to the Park Service. According to

Mr. Baker, it was planned to have a design for a plaque finished in bronze and fifty-five of these plaques, one for each member of the national park system, cast in bronze and furnished the Park Service for emplacement. The plan of the fund was that where no boulder or wall of building was available for such plaque that an artificial base be constructed of stone and the plaque affixed.

Mr. A. A. Weinman was appointed a committee of one with power for the Commission, and separately passed on the various designs. He indicated that none of the designs for the plaque submitted appeared satisfactory in scale or composition, and made suggestions which he felt might be more acceptable to the Park Service to assist them in solving the problem. He felt that Mr. Baker could work this out satisfactorily. He was satisfied with the bust of Mr. Mather, stating that probably in the final development of a large plaque Mr. Baker could still make some further refinements. He pointed out, however, that the best result could be obtained by making a special study for each site, and that the preparation of fifty-five plaques of one size for emplacement in all the parks would be disastrous from a Park Service standpoint, because they could not possibly all be placed, and that the matter of preparing an artificial base for emplacement of the plaque was out of the question. He suggested the possibility of one or two big plaques for emplacement in Yellowstone, possibly on the interior walls of the administration building, but suggested that the probable location for them be studied with a view to determining the size of the plaque.

The Commission concurred in the foregoing suggestions of Mr. Weinman and his disapproval of the sketches.

16. GENERAL ARTEMAS WARD STATUE: By letter of December 29, 1930, President A. Lawrence Lowell of Harvard University requested the Commission of Fine Arts to hold a competition for a sculptor for the Artemas Ward Statue, the letter being as follows:

December 29, 1930.

Dear Mr. Moore:

"I have consulted the Corporation and they will be very glad to have the Commission of Fine Arts in Washington hold a competition for a sculptor of the proposed Artemas Ward statue, it being understood that the total expense shall not exceed the amount appropriated (\$50,000) from the Artemas Ward Fund for such a statue."

Yours very sincerely,
(Signed) A. Lawrence Lowell.

The matter was brought to the particular attention of Mr. Weinman, who said he would prepare a list of names of sculptors who would be suited to enter the competition. Mr. Weinman said he wished to consider the names of sculptors whose work has come to his attention and is regarded of a good order but who have not heretofore been considered by the Commission in connection with competitions. Mr. Weinman mentioned a Mr. Grinnell of Chicago. It is also understood that Prof. Pond of Harvard has certain sculptors in mind that would be suitable for this competition. A report was sent to President Lowell (Exhibit K).

17. GEORGE WASHINGTON BICENTENNIAL EXHIBITION: Under date of January 3, 1931, the following letter was received from Dr. Alexander Wetmore, Assistant Secretary in Charge of the National Museum, in regard to the space desired in the National Museum for the proposed Fine Arts Exhibition to be held during the Bicentennial year:

January 3, 1931.

My dear Mr. Moore:

Reply to your letter of December 27 concerning space for exhibition in the Natural History Building during the Bicentennial Celebration of 1932 has been delayed until the present moment due to absence during the holidays of certain members of my staff that I had need to consult regarding this matter.

I am pleased to note the copy of the letter from the Secretary of the Navy regarding his acquiescence in the suggestion that the naval exhibition be removed from the rotunda. Under this circumstance, we shall be pleased to make this space available temporarily for the period of the Celebration in which you are interested, with this reservation, that any expense concerned with the removal of these exhibits and their subsequent re-installment be borne from funds other than ours.

Our situation regarding space is such that it will be necessary to arrange storage of this material elsewhere as we are unable to provide for it. We should expect you to provide for such storage.

There is one case in the rotunda, a large model of the battleground of Belleau Wood that can be removed only in sections. It is made so as to render this possible, but is housed in a specially built case secured from the Library Bureau which will necessarily be taken apart by a representative of that company and re-installed in the same manner, since it is so constructed that our mechanics cannot handle it. We believe that it may cost between five hundred and a thousand dollars to remove this case and to set it up again when it is brought back on exhibition. We do not have the funds to cover this item.

With regard to that paragraph in your letter concerning the proposal of the Mural Painters to place panels in the National Gallery of Art, it will be appreciated if you can make this a subject of a separate communication giving in somewhat more detail the manner in which it is proposed to place these panels and the place that it is proposed to use. Such a letter may be addressed to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. It will receive prompt consideration.

Permit me to say that I am pleased that conditions are seemingly so favorable for the furtherance of your plans.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) A. Wetmore,
Assistant Secretary.

The Commission expressed their appreciation of the cooperation offered by Dr. Wetmore and said they hoped a way could be found to procure the necessary funds so that the space desired may be made available to the artists. The Secretary suggested that the George Washington Bicentennial Commission should provide the necessary funds and a letter was sent to that Commission accordingly, asking for an allotment of \$5,000 to prepare for the Fine Arts Exhibition (Exhibit L).

18. ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL "ARCE": The Commission gave further consideration to the question of the Roosevelt Memorial "Arch", proposed for Marias Pass on the Continental Divide in Montana. The Commission again strongly disapproved the erection of an arch at the location proposed and suggested that possibly two memorial columns would serve as an appropriate design. The columns would be on each side of the roadway, backed with suitable planting.

Later in the evening members of the Commission were in consultation with Honorable Robert Luce, Chairman of the House Committee on the Library, in regard to the matter. He said that he hesitated to ask Congress for more money than the \$25,000 authorized. In the circumstances a change in the legislation to allow for erection of a memorial other than an arch is required.

A letter reporting on the matter was sent to Honorable Scott Leavitt from Montana, House of Representatives, who is particularly interested in the project. (Exhibit M. See also M-1)

19. MARKSMANSHIP TROPHY: Under date of December 15, 1930, the following letter was received from Captain G. B. Troland, requesting the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts as to a proposed trophy, for which they have only \$300:

December 15, 1930.

Dear Mr. Commissioner:

I would be grateful to obtain the cooperation of your Commission in the procurement of a statuette to be used as a trophy for the encouragement of marksmanship in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps Schools maintaining Engineer units. This trophy is to be presented by the Society of American Military Engineers, which I represent as Chairman of the Marksmanship Trophy Committee.

A trophy has heretofore been awarded by the Society in the form of a copy of the "Minute Man", by Mr. D. C. French. This trophy has now become permanent property of one of the contesting schools and it is necessary, therefore, to procure another trophy.

It is felt that the "Minute Man" was peculiarly appropriate. It is thought that the new trophy should represent the employment of the rifle in some other epoch in the history of our country and it has been suggested that it would be appropriate to represent the employment of the rifle by plainsmen in the protection of our Engineers when the transcontinental railways were being projected to the west. It would be of added significance that much of this engineering work was done under the direction of Army Engineers.

It is regretted that the Society of American Military Engineers is not in a position to pay fully for what such a statuette would be worth, but it is thought that possibly through your Commission we might be able to obtain the services of a sculptor who would be willing to undertake this work for a moderate fee, in view of the patriotic purposes of the Society and the uses to which the trophy is to be put. It is probable that not more than \$300.00 can be made available for the procurement of the trophy.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) G. B. Troland,
Captain, Corps of Engineers,
Chairman, Marksmanship Trophy Committee,
Society of American Military Engineers.

The matter was brought to the particular attention of Mr. Weinman.

Captain Troland called and conferred with Mr. Weinman with regard to the trophy.

Mr. Weinman said that the Engineer Corps should endeavor to raise \$1,000 as this would be needed to secure the services of a competent artist. If they did not wish to do this, for the \$300 they could buy one or two small bronzes. The Commission concurred with Mr. Weinman in this matter. Captain Troland said he would take up the question with the Society to see if more funds could be secured for this trophy.

20. NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OFFICE BUILDING: Mr. Arthur B. Heaton, Architect, of Washington, presented a sketch to the Commission for a new office building for the National Geographic Society, showing a tower. Mr. Heaton desired advice, particularly as to whether the tower was appropriate for the location along 16th Street.

The Commission considered the matter and decided that the office building proposed would not warrant the erection of a tower and that it would be inappropriate to erect it in connection with the National Geographic Society buildings. The architect members of the Commission suggested a change in the top motif of the building so as to omit the tower as this would greatly improve the appearance of the building. Mr. Heaton said he concurred in the views of the Commission and would design the building accordingly.

21. MERIDIAN HILL PARK: Mr. Peaslee presented a plan showing the proposed treatment of the grand terrace, with particular reference to a place for the band to hold concerts. The bandstand having been omitted, Mr. Peaslee now suggests a sounding board. The matter was discussed, and it was thought that it would be provided as a feature at the grand terrace and be operated by hydraulic pressure. The Commission also considered certain planting in the area near the grand terrace, and it was again urged that good sized trees should be planted. Mr. Peaslee asked again what the views of the Commission were regarding the suggested plan to secure enough money this year to complete Meridian Hill Park by 1932. The Commission reaffirmed their recommendation heretofore made that the cascade should be built as agreed upon in the plan, subject to such minor changes as may be desired in them and that funds should be secured for necessary planting. The Commission heartily favored the idea of securing the needed funds now to complete the park by 1932.

22. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WORLD WAR MEMORIAL: Mr. Peaslee criticized the design of the bandstand to be erected in Potomac Park as a District of Columbia World War Memorial, saying that he had talked with the leader of the Marine Band, who regretted that a dome has been provided in the plan and said that

simply a sounding board would be much better. Attention was called to the fact that when the designs for the bandstand were submitted five years ago, it was understood the architect would consult the Marine Band as to the necessary mechanical equipment that should be provided in connection with the architecture and that the bandstand would be made of a size large enough to hold the Marine Band. It is understood that the amplifiers have since been omitted from the memorial. It was emphasized that this is to be a memorial bandstand and in design is similar to the Temple of Love in the Borghese Gardens.

The question of the sounding board is to be brought to the attention of the architect of the memorial, Mr. Brooke.

23. STATE DEPARTMENT BUILDING: The Commission were in conference with Honorable Andrew W. Mellon, Secretary of the Treasury, in the afternoon, and inspected with him the model for the State Department Building, showing the changes heretofore suggested by the Commission. The Commission felt that they had been well carried out and they were pleased with the model. The architect members of the Commission suggested a further study of the balustrade and recommended that a model be made, showing sketches of five balusters with the dies made somewhat larger. A report was sent to Secretary Mellon, approving the model subject to these changes. (Exhibit N) (See also N-1)

24. MUNICIPAL CENTER MODEL: Mr. A. L. Harris reported that the model for the Municipal Center had arrived in Washington but had not been set up so that the Commission could inspect it. It is to be taken to the Capitol in a few days, and Mr. Harris expressed the desire that the Commission see it at the next meeting.

25. WAR AND NAVY BUILDINGS: In accordance with arrangements made with

Honorable Perry Heath, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, a joint meeting of the Board of Architectural Consultants of the Treasury Department, the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and the Commission of Fine Arts, was held at the Treasury Department on Wednesday, January 7; Mr. Moore and Mr. Mauran and the Secretary were designated to represent the Commission at the meeting. Mr. Moore said the Public Buildings Commission, of which Honorable Reed Smoot is Chairman, desires a specific recommendation as to a site for the War and Navy Department Buildings, and that at the present time there are three sites in dispute, namely: (1) south side of the Mall near the Capitol; (2) at about the intersection of New York and Virginia Avenues, N. W., near the Naval Hospital; and (3) the site recommended by the Commission of Fine Arts along Pennsylvania Avenue between 18th and 19th Streets. In accordance with the urgent request made by Senator Smoot, Mr. Moore submitted a report to the Public Buildings Commission, recommending the Pennsylvania Avenue site, in a letter dated December 29, 1930. (Exhibit O) This letter shows that the Pennsylvania Avenue site can be secured for about half the amount of money required for either the site south of the Mall or along New York and Virginia Avenues. In the opinion of the Commission, the Pennsylvania Avenue site is regarded the most appropriate one for these buildings since it would place them at a major location west of the White House in close proximity to the Executive group of buildings.

26. WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT MONUMENT: Under date of January 5, 1931, the following letter was received from Honorable Fiorello H. LaGuardia, House of Representatives, asking advice of the Commission of Fine Arts as to the pending bill, S. J. Res. 177 to erect a monument to former President William Howard Taft in the Philippine Islands:

January 5, 1931.

The Commission of Fine Arts,
Department of Interior,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sirs:

I desire to call your attention to S. J. Res. 177, which is now on the unanimous consent calendar of the House. I would like to inquire if the Commission has any plans for this monument as well as the views of the Commission on the amount appropriated. It will be seen if it is contemplated to erect a heroic or colossal statue, the amount of \$35,000 is hardly sufficient. I would like to get your views.

From time to time I have been offering amendments to bills providing for the erection of monuments, paintings or other works of art, requiring the work to be done of an artist who is a citizen of the United States. Some of the amendments have been approved, others have been rejected, according to the temper of the House at the time. Of late I have received many complaints concerning the employment of foreign artists for governmental work.

I would like to get your views on the subject. I believe it would be well if we could agree on a form of limitations to be attached to all bills.

Please let me hear from you.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) F. H. LaGuardia.

The matter was discussed and the Commission concurred in the suggestions of Mr. LaGuardia that an American artist should be designated to execute works of art authorized by the United States Government; that in this instance the question of design and location be given consideration before an amount is determined upon for the necessary appropriation to erect a monument. (Exhibit P)

The Commission adjourned at 5:45 p. m.

In the evening the Commission were the guests of Mrs. Charles W. Richardson, 2901 Grant Road, who has for years been much interested in the work of the Commission of Fine Arts.

C O P Y

January 7, 1931.

Dear Mr. Bloom:

The Associate Directors of the George Washington Bicentennial Commission stated to the Commission of Fine Arts that a medal suitable for presentation at the George Washington Bicentennial was to be prepared and suggested that a committee be appointed consisting of the former sculptor members of the National Commission of Fine Arts to secure the design for such medal. Thereupon the Commission of Fine Arts prepared a Program of Competition, and after this program had been approved by the Associate Directors the Commission of Fine Arts, in accordance with such program, asked five artists who had been awarded medals by the National Sculpture Society for medallion work to enter a competition. The Program of Competition called for a head of George Washington on the obverse of the medal, such portrait to be prepared on the basis of the Houdon bust at Mount Vernon. The reverse was to be treated in such manner as the artist might devise with the provision that the subject be one universal in character. Four of the five invited sculptors entered into the competition, the fifth having declined by reason of the fact that he would be out of the country during the period of the competition.

The four sets of models were submitted at the meeting of the Committee of Sculptors held in New York City on January 3, 1931.

EXHIBIT A

The competition was anonymous, and after due consideration the Committee of Sculptors unanimously awarded first place to model number One, which turned out to be the design of Mrs. Laura Garden Fraser, who had won the competition for the medal awarded by Congress to Colonel Lindbergh and who had also prepared the medal given by the National Geographic Society to Admiral Byrd. The Committee regarded Mrs. Fraser's models as of high merit, as a fine characterization of Washington and also as fulfilling in a fine way the requirements of a universal appeal. The report of the Committee is attached hereto, together with photographs of the obverse and reverse of the models.

This award was submitted to the National Commission of Fine Arts and was unanimously approved by the Commission at their meeting on January 6, 1931. This Commission, therefore, recommend that a contract be entered into, according to the terms of the approved Program of Competition, with Mrs. Laura Garden Fraser, 328 East 42nd Street, New York, N. Y. In this connection, the Commission call attention to their former recommendation that the fifty-cent piece and the twenty-five-cent piece used during 1932 bear on the obverse and reverse designs corresponding to the medal and that arrangements be made therefor by an Act of Congress and by a contract with the sculptor, as provided in the Program of Competition.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Honorable Sol Bloom, Associate Director,
George Washington Bicentennial Commission,
Washington, D. C.

C O P Y

January 7, 1931.

Sirs:

At the request of Honorable R. Walton Moore, accompanied by Honorable Stephen W. Gambrill, House of Representatives, and Mr. George M. Roberts, Superintendent of Weights, Measures and Markets, the Commission of Fine Arts gave consideration to the question of placing shelters over the sidewalks in certain sections of the city for the benefit of the farmers who have been accustomed for many years to sell produce from wagons backed against the curb adjacent to several markets. The Commission had the advice of the Municipal Architect on the subject.

In respect of the Western Market at the corner of K and 21st Streets, Northwest, the Commission are of the opinion that no shelters should be built across the sidewalk at that point. While the conditions of selling from wagons involves exposure to the sellers, yet this condition of affairs has existed for half a century and the Commission would not feel justified in recommending the covering of the sidewalk on a street that is rapidly developing for residence and apartment house uses. There is a space between the sidewalk and the market building which conceivably might be used for Farmers Market purposes on the two or three days of the week when such market exists.

In regard to the Eastern Market, the use of the streets for Farmers Market purposes has also persisted for many years, and now to

EXHIBIT B

begin the erection of shelters would probably call for like shelters in connection with a number of the other markets where the farmers are accustomed to sell from wagons. In other words, once to embark on the erection of shelters would probably lead to the demand for such shelters at many places in the city. The Commission therefore are not in favor of establishing such a precedent.

The investigations conducted on the ground, in company with the Superintendent of Weights, Measures and Markets, led the Commission into the real problem of the Farmers Market in Washington. The best practice in cities of a size corresponding to Washington is to take an entire square and develop it so that the marketing shall be done entirely off the street and within the square itself. It is also the experience of other cities that unless Farmers Markets are located at a natural center of buying they do not fulfil the requirements because the farmers will not resort to them.

Congress has provided for the purchase of two squares adjacent to Water Street, near the Fish Market and the new Wholesale Market. The Commission understand that the amount appropriated is insufficient to pay for the land to be purchased and that an additional appropriation will be required. Without anticipating the action of Congress in this respect, this Commission suggest that, pending Congressional action, the space owned by the Government and controlled by the District of Columbia immediately west of the Fish Market be turned into a Farmers Market temporarily. The question can then be tested as to whether this is a suitable site for a Farmers Market from the standpoint of

the farmers themselves. This will be tested by the use to which the farmers put the space. This area is now enclosed by a fence and is used for the storage of captured automobiles. A Farmers Market would certainly improve the appearance of that portion of the water front, almost all of which is now in a most deplorable condition.

The Commission ventures to suggest that another trial might be made on the grounds formerly occupied by the Central High School, at Seventh and O Streets, Northwest, also owned by the District of Columbia. Some of these school buildings the Commission understand will soon be abandoned for school purposes and will be available for market and other uses. The Commission also call attention to the fact that there is a very considerable space to be devoted to a Farmers Market on the Patterson Tract in connection with the new million dollar Wholesale Market which is being developed on that site.

The whole market problem in Washington is in a state of uncertainty and before going to any great expense in either the purchase of land or the development of markets, such trials as the Commission of Fine Arts herein suggest should be made to establish in a practical manner rather than from a theoretical standpoint where such markets should be located.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,
Charles Moore,
Chairman.

The Board of Commissioners
of the District of Columbia,
Washington, D. C.

C O P Y

January 7, 1931.

Dear Mr. Harris:

The Commission of Fine Arts appreciated the submission to them of the design for the Firemen and Policemen's Medal to be awarded for valor. The practice of awarding medals for distinguished service is growing very fast, but few of these medals have such distinction in design as to make them at all significant of the services for which they are awarded. This is particularly the case in the design of the medal you brought to the attention of the Commission at their meeting on January 6th. In its conception it does not suggest an award for valor and in the execution of the model does not give promise of a result that would be at all worthy of the organization bestowing it. The model is, therefore, disapproved by the Commission.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. A. L. Harris,
Municipal Architect,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT C

C O P Y

January 7, 1931.

Dear Mr. Corbett:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on January 6, 1931, approved the sketch plans submitted by you for the United Masonic Temple to be built on the Dean Tract. Your model showed a central building to be constructed first, then two flanking buildings to be built at a future time, the remainder of the area is to be treated as a park. The approval of the Commission of Fine Arts is given to the design of the central building, the plot plan of the two adjoining buildings, and the park treatment of the remainder of the grounds. The Commission understand that their approval is the approval of the scheme as presented and that any significant change contemplated will require a new submission to the Commission of Fine Arts.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Harvey Wiley Corbett, Architect,

130 West 42nd Street,

New York, N. Y.

EXHIBIT D

C O P Y

January 7, 1931.

Dear Colonel Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts appreciate the desire expressed by the Garden Club of America suitably to mark the entrances to the District of Columbia from Maryland and Virginia. The Commission considered the designs submitted by you at their meeting on January 6th for markers at certain entrances. These markers have for their main motive the use of the discarded columns from the State, War and Navy building. The columns in themselves are bad in design and not of the right scale to serve the intended purpose. This Commission, therefore, recommend that these discarded columns be not used as markers for the entrances to the District of Columbia.

Secondly, the Commission cannot approve the use of eagles made of iron, aluminum, concrete, or plaster as proposed for temporary service. The pylons at the Columbia Island end of the Arlington Memorial Bridge are surmounted by eagles carved from granite. These pylons are monumental and in character and size larger than what would be expected at other entrances to the District of Columbia. Nevertheless, for a set standard in material and workmanship they should be followed even in cases where an entrance to the District of Columbia might be considered of less importance.

The Commission, therefore, respectfully suggest that, in view of the limited amount of money available for marking the entrances to the District of Columbia, the funds could be expended in a satisfactory manner on planting schemes, which ultimately would serve surroundings of appropriately designed and executed markers.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d,
Executive and Disbursing Officer,
National Capital Park and Planning Commission,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT E

C O P Y

January 21, 1931.

Dear Colonel Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on January 6, 1931, considered designs submitted by you for the proposed federal warehouse to be located on the south side of the railroad at about the intersection of Virginia and Maryland Avenues, Southwest.

The Commission feel very strongly the desirability of securing an architect of high class to design this building. The opportunity is given to take advantage of the modern construction which is making such rapid strides throughout the architectural world, both in this country and in France and the countries of northern Europe. These modern tendencies in the construction of warehouses are being put into practice for the buildings for the World's Fair in Chicago. The leading motive in such construction is to attain the maximum efficiency at the least possible cost. The architectural expression of these buildings when designed by an artist may be made satisfactory when the location of such buildings in the commercial section of the city is considered. The Commission call attention to the success attained by Mr. Cass Gilbert in the construction of the Army Base in Brooklyn.

The Commission desires to cooperate with you to achieve the best possible building to serve the intended purpose of a storage warehouse.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore
Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d, Director,
Public Buildings and Public Parks,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT F

C O P Y

January 21, 1931.

Dear Colonel Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on January 6, 1931, were pleased to consider with you sketches for the new power plant to be erected in the square at 22nd and C Streets to take the place of the power plant now located in the triangle at B Street and Virginia Avenue, which is to be occupied by the proposed Pan American Office Building.

The Commission recommend a type of building indicated by Design C. The Commission, however, strongly believe that the design of this building, which will be a conspicuous feature in the landscape for some time to come, should be placed in the hands of a competent architect skilled in the designing of such power plants and capable of studying the problem in its relation to the other buildings going into that area.

The Commission call your attention again to the extreme desirability of taking into consideration the present trend of central heating toward the end of the substitution of gas manufactured at a distance and brought into the city.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d, Director,
Public Buildings and Public Parks,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT G

C O P Y

January 12, 1931.

Dear Colonel Grant:

In order that the Commission of Fine Arts might decide the question of scale of the sculptural groups for the entrance to the Arlington Memorial Bridge as compared with those at the entrance to the Rock Creek Parkway, the Commission of Fine Arts arranged to have the models of Mr. Friedlander and Mr. Fraser exhibited at the Fine Arts Building in New York City, on January 5, 1931, where they were shown at the scale of three-fourths inch to the foot. The two pairs of equestrian statues were placed at a proper distance one from the other with balustrade between. After a careful consideration of the models so placed, the Commission advised certain minor modifications, which the artists agreed to carry out.

These models the Commission regard as sufficiently complete for the purpose of making a contract with the sculptors. The Commission, therefore, recommend to the Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission that they enter into a contract with Mr. Friedlander and Mr. Fraser for these sculptural groups on the basis of the models submitted.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d,
Executive and Disbursing Officer,
Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT H

December 22, 1930.

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE

- I am sending herewith prints showing the two columns which are to be erected on Columbia Island, which is at the Virginia end of the Arlington Memorial Bridge. As you will see by the small plot plan, these columns are about 300 feet apart, and they are 175 feet high. In the lower part of the columns you will notice figures carved in relief. The figures are about 16 feet high. It is intended that the sculpture of the two columns shall represent in different ways the unity of these United States. In the near future we hope to select a sculptor for each column.

In consultation with the Commission of Fine Arts, five or six sculptors have been listed who would, we think, have the imagination required for such a bas relief. We are sending this letter with prints to these sculptors, asking them to send photographs of such groups as they have made which would throw light upon the question of their suitability for this work. This is really a competition based upon the past works of the sculptors. Later, we should recommend that as a preliminary to a contract with the Government, the two sculptors selected would each be required to prepare a sketch model for one of these bands of relief, at a scale of three-quarters of an inch to the foot. These sketches, if approved, would be the basis for an estimate on the entire cost of the sculpture. In the event of the rejection of any of the models, we should recommend to the Bridge Commission that the sculptor or sculptors thereof should receive remuneration of \$500.00 for their work, the scale models to remain their property.

If this enterprise appeals to you, will you kindly send us such photographs of groups or friezes as would help us make a choice?

Yours very truly,
(Signed) Wm. Mitchell Kendall

Copy of this letter sent to: Lee Lawrie, 149 East 119th St., N. Y. C.
Chester Beach, 207 E. 17th St., N. Y. C.
Walker Hancock, 422 E. 20th St., N. Y. C.
C. Paul Jennewein, 538 Van Nest Ave., N. Y. C.
A. Stirling Calder, 11 E. 14th St., N. Y. C.
John Gregory, 54 W. 74th St., N. Y. C.

C O P Y

January 12, 1931.

Dear Colonel Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on January 6, 1931, gave further consideration to the columns to be placed on Columbia Island. The Commission re-affirmed the Minute adopted at their meeting on November 7, 1930, on the subject as follows:

"The two columns on Columbia Island are to express the essential unity of the nation. At the time when Daniel Webster made his prophetic declaration (quoting President Jackson) there were only the North and the South. Now there is also a West, which presupposes also an East. The elimination of the statue at the Arlington end of the composition makes it imperative to express elsewhere this unity; and the most significant way in which this idea can be expressed is in the two Columbia Island columns with their symbolic sculpture.

"The Commission of Fine Arts has considered from time to time the detail of these columns as presented in the architect's drawings; but the significance of the columns has not been adequately discussed. Nor yet has the symbolic character of the sculpture itself received due consideration. Perhaps the best way to arrive at a satisfactory and adequate solution would be by a cooperative study of both architecture and sculpture to the end that both elements have due consideration in solving a problem which is after all first the mental concept and afterwards the artistic manner of carrying out the conception.

"This Commission feels that as yet the treatment has not risen to such heights; and that as a consequence, time has been taken in discussing details which have a subordinate place in the scheme. What we would like to see is a study made by both architect and sculptor working together to produce a unified result of supreme excellence."

The Commission approved the letter sent by Mr. Kendall to several sculptors who have been selected as a result of a competition by the

submission of photographs, with a view to having models prepared for these columns and finally in the selection of two sculptors to execute the two columns. A copy of the letter is attached.

The sculptors selected for this competition are:

Mr. Lee Lawrie, 149 East 119th Street, New York City.
Mr. Chester Beach, 207 East 17th Street, New York City.
Mr. Walker Hancock, 422 East 20th Street, New York City.
Mr. C. Paul Jennewein, 538 Van Nest Avenue, New York City.
Mr. Edmond Amateis, 15 West 29th Street, New York City.

The Commission recommend to the Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission that the sculptors above named be authorized to make sketch models of the columns on the scale of one inch to the foot, for which they would receive \$500 each for their work, the models to be the property of the Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission with the understanding that the Commission may use any or all symbolism shown in any of the models. The columns are to be fluted to harmonize with the sculptural relief at the base and the lantern at the top.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d,
Executive and Disbursing Officer,
Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission,
Washington, D. C.

C O P Y

January 12, 1931.

Dear Colonel Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on January 6, 1931, considered the grading plan prepared by McKim, Mead and White, Architects, and submitted by you for the treatment of the plaza west of the Lincoln Memorial between the Arlington Memorial Bridge and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway, and approved the same.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d,
Executive and Disbursing Officer,
Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT I

C O P Y

January 12, 1931.

Dear Colonel Grant:

At the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts on January 6, 1931, the question of Neon lighting on the Arlington Memorial Bridge was again taken up. It was then suggested that the Neon Lighting Company consult Mr. William Mitchell Kendall, of McKim, Mead and White, Architects of the Arlington Memorial Bridge, for the purpose of obtaining his consideration and recommendation to the Commission of Fine Arts in regard to this matter.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d,
Executive and Disbursing Officer,
Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT J

C O P Y

January 9, 1931.

My dear President Lowell:

Your letter of December 29, giving the Commission of Fine Arts authority to hold a competition to secure a sculptor to produce the Artemas Ward Statue, within the appropriation of \$50,000, has been received.

Mr. Weinman, the sculptor member of this Commission, who is also President of the National Sculpture Society, will prepare a list of names of sculptors to be asked to enter the competition. I shall keep you informed of developments.

Very sincerely yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

President A. Lawrence Lowell,
Harvard University,
Cambridge, Massachusetts.

EXHIBIT K

C O P Y

January 7, 1931.

Dear Mr. Bloom:

The Commission of Fine Arts having been requested by the George Washington Bicentennial Commission to arrange for an exhibition of the fine arts, representing in particular, architecture, sculpture, painting, and landscape architecture, the matter has been taken up with the national organizations concerned and they have appointed a representative committee that is prepared to cooperate with the Commission of Fine Arts and arrange for an exhibition that will be appropriate for the George Washington Bicentennial. The location determined for it is the National Museum with the space in front of the building on the Mall towards the Smithsonian and the courts of the Museum building for an outdoor exhibition of sculpture.

To make the space in the rotunda available, the consent of the Secretary of the Navy has been secured for removing a navy exhibit. There are also objects of the National Museum that need temporary relocation and a place for storage. Dr. Wetmore, Assistant Secretary in charge of the National Museum, writes that the museum is willing to make the space desired available, provided the expense of removing models and other objects is guaranteed. It involves at least \$2,000,

EXHIBIT L

and there are doubtless other expenses connected with the exhibition. I, therefore, respectfully ask in behalf of the Commission of Fine Arts for an authorization of \$5,000, which would enable the Commission of Fine Arts to prepare for the exhibition. Of course, any balance not actually needed would be returned to the George Washington Bicentennial Commission. You will understand that some funds should be made available to the Commission of Fine Arts to arrange for such an important exhibition as this. It means additional work for the Commission, and the artists are giving their services. The amount asked of \$5,000 is very reasonable.

I inclose copy of a letter from Dr. Wetmore, giving his approval to having the exhibition in the National Museum, subject to the conditions above stated.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Honorable Sol Bloom, Associate Director,
George Washington Bicentennial Commission,
Washington, D. C.

C O P Y

January 9, 1931.

My dear Mr. Leavitt:

The Commission of Fine Arts have been giving serious thought to the question of the erection of a Roosevelt Memorial Arch at Marias Pass on the Continental Divide in Montana, as authorized by law.

After studying the situation as shown by photographs, and after examining the sketches made by Messrs. Kimball, Steele and Sandham, Architects, of Omaha, the Commission unanimously disapproved the erection of an arch for the reason that the scale of the landscape is so vast that any arch would be insignificant.

The Commission have consulted Honorable Robert Luce, Chairman of the House Committee on the Library. Mr. Luce is interested in this memorial but says he does not favor an increase in the amount of the appropriation, and would hesitate to ask Congress for more money than has been authorized.

The Commission, therefore, recommend that the authorization act be changed to allow for the erection of a memorial other than an arch. This would allow time for the architects and the Forest Service in cooperation with the Commission of Fine Arts to consider the question of type of memorial.

The Commission have thought that an appropriate design for the memorial would be two columns, one on each side of the roadway, backed by suitable planting. Further time should be given to the consideration with you of the exact type of memorial.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Honorable Scott Leavitt,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT M

71ST CONGRESS
3D SESSION

H. R. 16078

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 12, 1931

Mr. LEAVITT introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Library and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To amend the Act approved June 2, 1930, providing for a memorial to Theodore Roosevelt for his leadership in the cause of forest conservation.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the Act approved June 2, 1930 (Public, Numbered
4 296, Seventy-first Congress), be amended to read as follows:

5 “That the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized and
6 directed to erect a suitable memorial on the continental
7 divide at the summit of the Rocky Mountains on the bound-
8 ary between the Lewis and Clark National Forest and the
9 Flathead National Forest in Montana and along the Theo-

1 dore Roosevelt International Highway in commemoration
2 of the leadership of Theodore Roosevelt in preserving the
3 forest resources of the United States: *Provided*, That there
4 is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any funds in
5 the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of
6 \$25,000 for the purposes of this Act.

7 “ That the plan and design of such memorial shall be
8 subject to the approval of the National Commission of Fine
9 Arts.

10 “ The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to do all
11 things necessary to accomplish said purpose, by contract or
12 otherwise, with or without advertising, under such condi-
13 tions as he may prescribe, including the engagement, by con-
14 tract, of services of such architects, sculptors, artists, or
15 firms or partnerships thereof, and other technical and pro-
16 fessional personnel as he may deem necessary without regard
17 to civil-service requirements and restrictions of law govern-
18 ing the employment and compensation of employees of the
19 United States, and to spend in accordance with the provi-
20 sions of this Act such sum of money as may be placed in
21 his hands as a contribution additional to the funds appro-
22 priated by Congress.”

C O P Y

January 7, 1931.

Sir:

In your presence, the Commission of Fine Arts on January 6th examined the model of the State, War and Navy building as altered to conform to the Treasury Department building. The Commission approved the changes as shown in the model, with the proviso that a balustrade be substituted for a parapet, with a preference for openings admitting five balusters and making the dies a little wider. A model of the balusters, on a larger scale than the sketch submitted, is suggested.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Honorable Andrew W. Mellon,
Secretary of the Treasury,
Washington, D. C.

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
Washington

January 9, 1931

Dear Mr. Moore:

I have your letter of January 7th saying that the Commission of Fine Arts has approved the model of the State, War and Navy building as altered to conform to the Treasury building. I am asking the architect to make the changes suggested in the balustrade, which is to be substituted for the parapet.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) A. W. Mellon

Secretary of the Treasury.

Honorable Charles Moore,
Chairman, The Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Department Building,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT N AND N- 1

C O P Y

December 29, 1930.

Sir:

In compliance with your request for a specific recommendation from the Commission of Fine Arts for the location of the new buildings for the War and the Navy Departments, this Commission advises that:

The War Department be located on Squares 141 and 142, on the south side of Pennsylvania Avenue, bounded by Eighteenth and Nineteenth, F and H Streets.

The Navy Department be located on Square 105, on the north side of Pennsylvania Avenue, bounded by Eighteenth and Nineteenth, H and I Streets.

The considerations which have influenced these recommendations are:

First, the grouping of Departmental buildings about the White House as the executive center of the Government.

Second, the development of Pennsylvania Avenue as the great Governmental thoroughfare from the Capitol to the Rock Creek Parkway.

Third, the opportunity to get a truly monumental setting for the monumental buildings of the Government.

Fourth, the convenience of the occupants of the buildings.

EXHIBIT O

Fifth, the even and harmonious development of the City of Washington as the National Capital.

Questions of cost and adequacy of the sites have been considered.

War Department

Assessed value Square 141:	Land	\$775,793
	Improvements	<u>1,006,400</u>
	Total	1,782,193

" " " 142:	Land	496,192
	Improvements	<u>227,100</u>
	Total	723,292

Total for the two squares \$2,505,485

The present force of the War Department,
according to the Public Buildings Report
for 1929, p-47, 4,000 persons

Space available in new buildings, based on
the space in the new Internal Revenue Building 7,500 persons

Navy Department

Assessed value Square 105 (H to I, 18th to 19th):

	Land	\$786,430
	Improvements	<u>1,262,700</u>
	Total	2,049,130

\$2,049,130

Of this total value, \$817,248 is the value of the present Commerce Building, which could be utilized during the construction of the new Navy Building.

Present office force of the Navy Department	2,800 persons
Space available on Square 105	4,000 persons

Location in Triangle Bounded by New York Avenue, B Street and 17th Street

Property included in site that must be purchased; assessed value	Land 2,957,299
	Improvements <u>5,712,600</u>
Total	<u>\$8,669,899</u>

Cost of Pennsylvania Avenue 3 squares	
War Department (2 squares)	\$2,505,485
Navy " (1 square)	<u>2,049,130</u>
Total	<u>4,554,615</u>
	<u>4,554,615</u>
In favor of Pennsylvania Avenue site	<u>\$4,115,284</u>

Thus the monumental sites on Pennsylvania Avenue would cost about one-half that of the interior location in the west triangle.

The Southwest Area

Cost of relocating railway		\$7,000,000
Value of land to be purchased	\$1,048,220	
" " improvements	<u>955,000</u>	
	<u>2,003,220</u>	<u>2,003,220</u>
		<u>9,003,220</u>
Cost of Pennsylvania Avenue sites		<u>4,554,615</u>
In favor of Pennsylvania Avenue sites		<u>4,448,605</u>

Note as to Space Requirements

In the estimates of space required in the future, allowance has not been made for the transfer of all but current files to the Archives Building. This relief in the course of both the War and the Navy Departments will be considerable.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Hon. Reed Smoot, Chairman,
Public Buildings Commission,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

C O P Y

January 20, 1931.

Dear Mr. LaGuardia:

Replying more in detail to your letter of January 5, than could be done in our telephone conversation, I would say that the bill for the erection of a statue to President Taft at Manila has not been referred to the Commission of Fine Arts for report. Therefore the Commission has no official knowledge of the project, and has not given consideration to the adequacy of the amount (\$35,000) proposed.

As you know, the City of Manila was replanned at the instance of President Taft, by the late Daniel H. Burnham, of Chicago, who was also chairman of the commission that made for Washington in 1901 the plans under which the present development is progressing. The Burnham plans for Manila were carried out by Mr. Parsons, who remained in the islands for several years. These plans have won favor because of the fact that they recognize historic, climatic and cultural conditions.

After leaving the Philippines, Mr. Parsons did very important work under Governor Towner in San Juan, Porto Rico. He is now planning the extension of the Capitol Grounds in Washington.

The erection of a statue to Mr. Taft at Manila, in recognition of his services as Governor General, Secretary of War and President of the United States, would seem most appropriate. The cost of such a statue would depend on its location, and that would involve consultation with the present Governor General, Hon. Dwight F. Davis, whose taste and experience in park matters are exceptional. Also, and more directly, with Mr. Parsons, who is available.

The Commission of Fine Arts recently has had the supervision of the erection of a statue of Henry Clay at Caracas, Venezuela, designed by the late Edward T. Quinn, of New York. The result has been approved both in Venezuela and in this country.

The Commission is now supervising the production of a statue of Leif Ericsson, the gift of the United States to Iceland. Mr. A. Stirling Calder, of New York, is the sculptor.

These two instances in part answer your question as to the employment of American artists to design works of art authorized by Congress. The Commission of Fine Arts have never had occasion to make a rule on this subject, for the sufficient reason that the Commission

EXHIBIT P

have always been able to select from among citizens of the United States as able artists as are to be found in any country. In two instances portraits painted by foreign artists have been submitted to the Commission only to be rejected; not, however, on the score of the nationality of the artist, but because of lack of merit in the portraits themselves.

The Commission recognizes some tendency on the part of private individuals or semi-public organizations to select foreign artists to paint portraits intended for presentation, a proceeding that would be unheard of abroad, and that has no justification at home, save the personal favor of the persons making the purchase.

In so far as the Commission of Fine Arts are concerned, legislative limitations on the choice of artists are not necessary.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Honorable Fiorello H. LaGuardia,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

THE FIRST OF THESE IS THE FACT THAT THE
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AND THAT THE PEOPLE ARE CAPABLE OF
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OF THE NATION.

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